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## Chinese Police Surveillance of Foreigners Said to Increase Sharply

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BEIJING, April 7—Chinese police surveillance of foreigners living here appears to have increased markedly in the aftermath of student demonstrations and the ouster of Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang.

In the last two weeks, several western journalists have reported being the targets of surveillance by police agents. In two cases, American journalists were followed for some distance by such agents.

Security police stationed in guard houses at the gates of compounds housing foreign diplomats and journalists recently began working around the clock. The number of military guards stationed next to each gate has been increased from one to two.

One explanation being given is that the additional guard is a trainee. But the military guards have increased the checks they make on Chinese employes of foreigners and others who enter the compounds.

The stepped-up surveillance, including some indications of increased telephone monitoring, is believed to be linked to a shake-up in China's police leadership and to police concern over contacts between foreign journalists and ordinary Chinese, including dissident students.

Foreign observers say they believe the police want to discourage such contacts. In addition, some police officers may be concerned about recent disclosures in the foreign press of four confidential party documents.

About a week ago, Ruan Chongwu, the minister of public security and head of China's main police force, reportedly was being removed from his post. The procommunist newspaper Wen Wei Po in Hong Kong reported today that Ruan, 54, is being replaced by Wang Fang, a party veteran with past police experience who is party chief of Zhejiang Province.

Ruan, who held the police job for 1½ years, had close connections to former party leader Hu. Those ties are believed to be one reason for his reported removal.

Party veterans have also charged that police were not firm enough in countering student demonstrations that swept more than a dozen cities in December and early January.

Some foreigners consider Ruan, a technocrat, to be a liberal by Chinese communist standards. Ruan attempted to curb police power and abuses and gave an unprecedented press conference last year in which he spoke openly of problems confronting the police.

The State Security Ministry, a separate organization, is the main government agency responsible for counterespionage and the surveillance of foreigners. That ministry decided during the past year to expel two foreign journalists, John F. Burns of The New York Times and Lawrence MacDonald of Agence France-Presse.

Both the regular police and plainclothesmen of the State Security Ministry appear to have increased their activities considerably over the past weekend.

A leaflet found on university campuses had called for students to demonstrate last Sunday. The demonstrations did not materialize. But a fear that Chinese students might receive renewed foreign press coverage may help to explain some of the recent surveillance of foreign journalists.

Among the reported incidents:

■ At 1:30 a.m. Sunday, an Australian journalist said, two Chinese plainclothesmen were sitting in a white van, with headlights off, in a foreigners' compound, watching two of his friends enter an apartment building. The Australian decided to follow the van in his car and the two men in the van tried to evade him.

■ Later Sunday, an American journalist was bicycling to visit a Chinese friend when a Chinese on a bicycle began to follow him. The journalist tried to lose the man by darting down a side street but failed to do so.

Finally, the Chinese on the bicycle gave up the chase, but then the journalist noticed that he was being watched by two other men in a battered orange Citroen. The journalist decided to forgo visiting his Chinese friend.

■ That evening, another American journalist had planned a meeting with a Chinese that was disrupted by a man in a Citroen following the journalist's car.